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A letter from Dr. Benjamin Smith Barton, of Philadelphia, was read ; and, thereupon,

Voted, That the Corresponding Secretary transmit to Dr. Barton a set of the Collections of the Society, and continue the same as they may be hereafter published.

Nomination : Dr. Benjamin Smith Barton, of Philadelphia, a Corresponding Member, by Mr. Peck.

QUARTERLY MEETING, JANUARY, 1796.

At a meeting of the Massachusetts Historical Society, 26th January, 1796, —

Rev. JOHN THORNTON KIRKLAND, Rev. JEDEDIAH MORSE, D.D., and Rev. JOHN CLARKE, D.D., were chosen Resident Members. Dr. BENJAMIN SMITH BARTON, a Corresponding Member.

Nomination : Rev. William Bentley, of Salem, a Resident Member, by Mr. Winthrop.

Mr. Pemberton, at his request, was excused from the Committee of Publications for the year 1796.

SPECIAL MEETING.

At a special meeting of the Massachusetts Historical Society, March 25, 1796, —

The Committee appointed in January, 1795, to apply

to the General Court for the exclusive power of compiling a map of the State reported that, in consequence of their application, the Legislature had passed the following Resolve : —

“ Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

“ IN SENATE, Feb. 25, 1796.

“ On the memorial of the Massachusetts Historical Society, and in order speedily to procure a map of this Commonwealth, —

“ *Resolved*, That the plans and materials for the map of this Commonwealth returned, or which shall be returned, to the Secretary’s office, or which shall otherwise be procured, pursuant to a Resolve of the 26th of June, 1794, shall be, at that office, or such convenient place as the Secretary shall appoint, submitted to the perusal and examination of the Members of the Massachusetts Historical Society, and of any person or persons who shall be employed by them. And the said Society shall have liberty to make or procure from the said plans and materials a map of this Commonwealth entire; provided, that the map which shall be taken by means of such access to the said plans and materials shall be deposited in the Secretary’s office, and, as soon as may be, submitted to the Legislature of the Commonwealth for their approbation.

“ *Resolved*, That if the map which shall be copied and constructed under the care of the Historical Society, as aforesaid, shall be approved by the said Legislature, the said plans and materials shall be delivered over to the said Society, and the whole right of the publication thereof, and any map or maps which shall be made therefrom, shall be, and hereby is, granted and vested to and in the said Historical Society for and during the term of fourteen years; the profits of such publication, if any shall accrue, to be applied to promote the purposes of their institution.

“ *Provided*, That the said Society will undertake such publication at their own risk and expense; and, provided, that the said original plans and materials shall be preserved in the public room of the said Society, and shall be subject to the examination of the Supreme Executive and of the Legislature, when it shall be required; and, provided, that

the said Society shall cause the map which shall be approved, as afore-said, to be accurately and elegantly engraven at their own expense, and shall deliver five hundred impressions thereof into the Secretary's office, for the use and order of the Legislature.

“Concurred in by the House of Representatives, and approved by the Governor, February 26.”

Thereupon,

Voted, That the President, Dr. Belknap, Dr. Morse, Mr. Harris, Mr. Winthrop, Mr. Freeman, and Judge Minot be a committee to take into consideration the said Resolve.

Voted, That Dr. Belknap be excused from serving on the Committee who were appointed to consider the mode of publishing the Collections.

Dr. CLARKE was appointed in his room.

Voted, That this Committee meet, and make report to the Society at their quarterly meeting.

Rev. WILLIAM BENTLEY, of Salem, was chosen a Resident Member.

Nomination: Dr. William Spooner, of Boston, a Resident Member, by Mr. Winthrop.*

ANNUAL MEETING, APRIL, 1796.

At a meeting of the Massachusetts Historical Society, on Tuesday, the twenty-sixth day of April, 1796, —

The members proceeded to the annual election of officers: —

* At this meeting, Mr. James Perkins, previously elected a Corresponding Member, was adopted as a Resident Member. See p. 346. — EDS.

JAMES SULLIVAN	was chosen	PRESIDENT.
GEORGE R. MINOT	„	TREASURER.
JEREMY BELKNAP	„	CORRESPONDING SECRETARY.
JAMES FREEMAN	„	RECORDING SECRETARY.
JOHN ELIOT	„	LIBRARIAN.
SAMUEL TURELL	„	CABINET-KEEPER.
JAMES WINTHROP	} were chosen . .	STANDING COMMITTEE.
PETER THACHER		
REDFORD WEBSTER		

Dr. WILLIAM SPOONER was chosen a Resident Member.

The following letters were read : —

From John Davis, Esq., requesting that a set of the Collections may be sent to Mr. Wolcott, Secretary of the Treasury of the United States.

Voted, accordingly, that the Corresponding Secretary transmit to Mr. Wolcott the four volumes of the Collections.

From Joseph Peters, respecting Halifax newspapers, and accompanying meteorological observations.

From James Clarke, accompanying an Indian stone arrow-head. Presented by Titus Smith.

From Titus Smith to James Clarke, on the production of glauber salt, sea salt, and alum, at New Haven, in Connecticut; on a ridge of rocks westward of West Haven, consisting of limestone and asbestos; on the melinum in Nova Scotia; and on the above-mentioned Indian arrow-head, found in the same province.

From Mrs. M. Blodget, accompanying the pen which signed the act of Confederation, and a thigh-bone from a burying-ground on James River, Virginia, now covered with water.

From Phineas Miller, of Georgia, accepting his election as Corresponding Member, and respecting the black and green seed cotton, accompanied by specimens.

Voted, That Mr. Hawley, of Marshpee, be allowed to take copies of the letter of Nathaniel Freeman, Esq., of Barnstable, to the Recording Secretary, and of the papers accompanying it.

Mr. Hall presented his account for printing the fourth volume of the Collections.

Voted, That it be committed to Dr. Morse and Mr. Freeman.

The Committee appointed to consider the mode of publishing the Collections of the Society reported that

it is not expedient to continue the publication at present.

The report was accepted.

MESSRS. TURELL and KIRKLAND were appointed a committee to examine the Treasurer's accounts.

The following donations were received : —

For the Collections : —

Observations respecting the Geography and Natural History of Virginia, by St. George Tucker, Esq.

Observations on the country about New Haven, by Mr. Titus Smith.

For the Library : —

The Columbian Centinel, for 1795, from Captain Benjamin Russell.

The Courier, from Messrs. Sweetser and Burdick.

The Independent Chronicle, for 1795, from Messrs. Adams and Larkin.

The Boston Gazette, for 1795, from Mr. Benjamin Edes.

A Poem commemorative of Goffe, Whalley, and Dixwell, from Mr. Samuel Hall. Two copies.

Hogan's State Trials, from Dr. Barton, of Philadelphia.

The Baptist Annual Register, published by Dr. Rippon. Nos. 9 and 10. From Rev. Isaac Backus.

Debates of the Massachusetts Convention, 1788; Swan's National Arithmetic; Symmes's, West's, and Bridge's Election Sermons. From Mr. James Milne.

The Massachusetts Mercury, for 1795; Proceedings of John A. Graham, Esq., agent of the Episcopal Church of Vermont, at the Court of London; Harper's Address to his Constituents; Fobes's Election Sermon; and Strong's Thanksgiving Sermon. From Messrs. Young and Minns.

Dr. Dana's Funeral Sermon on the late President Stiles, from Rev. David McClure.

Meteorological Observations made at Halifax, Nova Scotia, from Joseph Peters, Esq., of Halifax.

Journal of the General Court of Massachusetts, 1775 and 1776, from Master Henry Foster.

Bishop Madison's Thanksgiving Sermon, Feb. 19, 1795, from the author.

Several Pamphlets, containing cases in law, orations, and sermons, from St. George Tucker, Esq., of Virginia.

For the Cabinet : —

Specimens of Sugar Cane, transplanted from Otaheite to Martinico, very large and rich. From Mr. William Walter, Jr.

An Indian Weapon, found in Nova Scotia, from Mr. Titus Smith.

The identical Pen with which Congress subscribed the Act of Confederation in 1778, and a Human Thigh-bone, found in a state of submersion in Virginia. From Mrs. Blodget, of Virginia.*

* This pen is preserved in the Cabinet of the Society. — Eds.

SPECIAL MEETING.

At a special meeting of the Massachusetts Historical Society, June 6, 1796, —

The Committee chosen at the special meeting in March to take the Resolve of the General Court into consideration made a report, which, after being amended, was accepted.*

Voted, That the President, Judge Minot, and Dr. Clarke be a committee to present a memorial to the General Court, conformable to this report.

Nominations: Josiah Quincy, Esq., a Resident Member, by Mr. Freeman; William Blount, Esq., Governor of Tennessee, a Corresponding Member, by Dr. Morse.

The following donations were received: —

For the Library: —

Ogilby's Description of America, from Judge Cranch.

History of Cape Breton and St. John's.

Review of Military Operations in North America, from 1753 to 1756, from Dr. Lothrop, of Plymouth.

Several ancient Manuscripts, from Isaac Lothrop, Esq., of Plymouth.

QUARTERLY MEETING.

At a meeting of the Massachusetts Historical Society, July 26, 1796, —

Voted, That the July quarterly meeting of the Society for the future be on the day succeeding Commencement.

Voted, That the Librarian be desired to take the copies of the Col-

* See this Report in the Appendix, No. I., to this volume. — Eds.

lections now in the hands of Mr. Hall, and arrange them in the Library, or otherwise dispose of them as he shall judge best.

Voted, That the Cabinet-Keeper, Mr. Pemberton, and Dr. Spooner be a committee to take an account of the articles in the Cabinet and Museum.

Voted, That the President, Agent of the United States for settling the boundary line at St. Croix, have the liberty of taking any books from the Library relative to that business, he giving a receipt to the Librarian for the same.

Voted, That the Librarian and Judge Minot be a committee to take a list of the manuscripts presented by Mr. Trumbull, and other manuscripts which are on the files.

Voted, That Dr. Thacher, appointed on the eleventh day of June, 1794, a committee to wait on Mrs. Hancock for the purpose of making a selection from the books, pamphlets, and papers belonging to the late Governor, for the use of the Society, be desired to attend to that business.

JOSIAH QUINCY, Esq., of Boston, was chosen a Resident Member.

The following donations were received : —

For the Library : —

The Constitution of the Society of Free and Accepted Masons, elegantly bound, from the Grand Lodge of Massachusetts, by their Grand Master, Paul Revere, Esq.

Four Pamphlets, from Mr. Ebenezer Larkin.

A Newspaper, 1712, from Mr. Kelder.

Laws of South Carolina, 1795, and A Sketch of the Soil, Climate, Weather, and Diseases of South Carolina. From Hon. Dr. Ramsay.

Journal of the Senate of the United States, 1795 and 1796, from Ebenezer Hazard, Esq.

Professor Kent's Law Lectures in the College of New York, and several Pamphlets, from Mr. Gardiner Baker.

Three Pamphlets on Medical Subjects, from Dr. John C. Lettsom.

Geographical View of the Post-roads in the United States, from Mr. S. A. Ruddock.

For the Cabinet : —

A box of Marine Petrifications, found in the interior parts of Virginia, Carolina, and Georgia, from Phineas Miller, Esq.

Specimens of Marine Petrifications, found in western parts of New York, three hundred miles from the sea, from Rev. Mr. Norton.

A collection of Silver and Copper Coins, ancient and modern, from Dr. Joshua Thomas.

Two Roman Coins, taken out of the walls of Belgrade, — 1st, Antoninus Pius; 2d, Valentinian. From Mr. Degan.

An English Coin of Queen Elizabeth; a Ten Shilling Bill of New Hampshire, 1737; a Ten Shilling Bill of Massachusetts, 1742; and the Key of the Fort at Annapolis, taken 1710. From Mr. Samuel Belknap.

Four Prints, exhibiting Landscapes in Italy and the Alps, from Mr. Wendell Davis.

A Mezzotinto Print, in frame, of Governor Belcher, from Master Daniel McNiel, Jr.

For the Society's Room: —

A pair of Andirons, from Mr. Clap.

An Inkstand.

QUARTERLY MEETING.

At a meeting of the Massachusetts Historical Society,
Oct. 25, 1796, —

Mr. Isaac Beers, of New Haven, printer, applied for the four volumes of the Historical Collections, in exchange for La Hontan.

Voted, That the request cannot be complied with.

Mr. PEMBERTON, Dr. SPOONER, and the Cabinet-Keeper reported a list of the natural and artificial productions belonging to the Museum of the Society, which report is on file.

Voted, That the Cabinet-Keeper be authorized to exchange some of the shells belonging to the Society for Governor Hutchinson's picture.

Voted, That Messrs. Eliot and Freeman be a committee to sell the useless books belonging to the Society.

Governor WILLIAM BLOUNT, of Tennessee, was chosen a Corresponding Member.

Nominations: Gilbert Harrison Hubbard, of Demerara, a Corresponding Member, by Dr. Belknap; Dr. Isaac

Senter, of Newport, a Corresponding Member, by Mr. Freeman; Oliver Wolcott, Jr., Esq., a Corresponding Member, by Mr. John Davis.

SPECIAL MEETING.

At a special meeting of the Massachusetts Historical Society, Nov. 18, 1796, —

Voted, That Dr. Belknap, Dr. Morse, and Dr. Spooner be a committee to solicit subscriptions to the funds of the Society.

Voted, That the Treasurer purchase Des Barres's "Atlantic Neptune," three volumes, of Mr. Benjamin Larkin, for the sum of fifty dollars.

Voted, That the Treasurer be a committee to frame an article in addition to the Laws, regulating that persons neglecting to pay their annual assessments or to attend the quarterly meetings, shall, after a limited period, no longer be considered as members of the Society.

Mr. GILBERT HARRISON HUBBARD, of Demerara; Dr. ISAAC SENTER, of Newport; and OLIVER WOLCOTT, Jr., Esq., Secretary of the Treasury, were chosen Corresponding Members.

Nominations: Mr. Eben. Parsons, a Resident Member, by Mr. Kirkland; Rev. Asa Norton, of Paris, New York, a Corresponding Member, by Dr. Morse; Hon. Stephen Van Rensselaer, of Albany, a Corresponding Member, by the President.

The following donations were received at this and at the former meeting: —

For the Library: —

Province Laws, edition of 1726, and a volume of the Statutes at Large, incomplete, from Mr. Stephen Williams.

Collection of Facts relative to the Yellow Fever, from Noah Webster, Jr., Esq.

A Pamphlet on the same subject, from Mr. Gardiner Baker.

Fragment of a Concordance to the Indian Bible (MS.), from Mrs. Eliza Howard.

Stiles's History of the Judges of Charles I., and Marsh's Election Sermon, from Rev. David McClure.

Collection of President Washington's Speeches, from Mr. Solomon Cotton. The Lay Preacher, from Mr. John Hubbard.

Inquiry concerning Madoc's Discovery of America, two Pamphlets, by Dr. John Williams. From Mr. Isaac Beers.

Fairservice's Address to his Children, from Hon. Thomas Dawes, Esq.

Findley's History of the Insurrection in Pennsylvania, from the author.

Hearne's Journey from Hudson's Bay to the North Sea, 1772, from Mr. Thomas K. Jones.

Twenty Pamphlets, political, historical, and theological, from Mr. Joseph Coolidge.

Four Pamphlets, from Mr. Peter Edes.

For the Cabinet: —

The Skin of a Torpedo Eel, and several Indian Implements, domestic and martial, from Demerara. Presented by Captain George Wheelwright.

An Indian Air-gun and Arrows, a large Bat, and some specimens of Wood, from Demerara. From Mr. Gilbert H. Hubbard.

A Silver Medal, in memory of Katharine I., wife of Henry VIII., and Queen of England, from Captain Israel Bartlett.

Model of a Cannon, mounted in a new mode, from Hon. General Mattoon.

A branch of Coralline, from the bottom of the ocean, from Mr. John Geyer, Jr.

Impression of the Seal of the Province of Nova Scotia, on wax, from Mr. Edward W. Newell.*

* It will have been observed that, at the October meeting, 1793, p. 55, the catalogue of the Library being reported, it was "voted, that the Librarian [George Richards Minot] procure it to be copied at the expense of the Society." No further action is recorded respecting it, but a catalogue was printed this year, 1796, entitled "Catalogue of Books in the Massachusetts Historical Library. Printed by S. Hall, No. 53 Cornhill, Boston, 1796," forty pages 8vo. The titles are very brief, arranged in single columns, and number rather more than one thousand. In a note at the end, the reader is told that "this Catalogue does not include unbound books and pamphlets, nor European publications, except they have some connection with American history, nor a large collection of newspapers," &c. This little catalogue has now become quite rare. — Eds.